Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 L-03 SCS-03 PER-01 PPT-01 FS-01 MMO-01 /068 W

-----260859Z 048398 /17

R 260819Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2248

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

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DEPT ALSO FOR NEA/ARP

STUTTGART FOR ELG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR QA UK PFOR

SUBJ: STATUS OF GULF E&E AGREEMENT WITH BRITISH

REF: 76 DOHA A-29, 75 DOHA 1418, 75 DOHA 0379

- 1. AFTER SEVERAL UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS DURING PAST TWO YEARS TO OBTAIN FROM DEPARTMENT CLARIFICATION ON ROLE OF BRITISH IN EVENT OF E&E SITUATION IN QATAR (REFTELS), WE PREPARED E&E PLAN ON ASSUMPTION THAT PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENTS WITH UK WERE INOPERATIVE (REFAIR). EMBASSIES ABU DHABI AND MUSCAT HAVE DONE LIKEWISE.
- 2. HOWEVER, DURING COURSE OF JAN 24 CALL ON EMBOFF, UK EMBOFF CONFIDENTIAL

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SAID THAT PURPOSE OF CALL WAS TO DETERMINE NUMBER OF AMERICANS IN QATAR BECAUSE HE WAS IN PROCESS OF DOING SEMI-ANNUAL UPDATE OF BRITISH E&E PLAN AND NEEDED TO KNOW THIS BECAUSE UNDER THEIR E&E PLAN THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR EVACUATION OF AMERICANS UNDER TERMS OF AGREEMENT WORKED OUT IN 1972.

3. EMBOFF REPLIED WE WERE NOT CERTAIN OF PRESENT STATUS OF

1972 AGREEMENT, BUT FOUND IT NOTEWORTHY TO LEARN THAT BRITISH STILL BELIEVE THEY HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVACUATION OF AMERICANS IN QATAR.

4. AS NOTED ABOVE, UK EMBOFF SAID BRITISH UPDATE WAS SEMI-ANNUAL AFFAIR. HOWEVER, THIS IS FIRST TIME WE CAN RECALL SINCE EMBASSY EXPANDED IN JULY 1974 THAT ANYONE FROM BRITISH EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED E&E INFORMATION FROM THIS EMBASSY. UK EMBOFF REMARKED THAT THE 1972 AGREEMENT WHICH GIVES BRITISH RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVACUATION OF AMERICANS IN QATAR IS A GULF WIDE AGREEMENT.

5. COMMENT: IT'S ABOUT TIME WE STRAIGHTENED THIS SITUATION OUT, PARTICULARLY SINCE WE HAVE ALREADY MADE OUR OWN PLANS WITHOUT FACTORING IN UK; IT ONLY FAIR THAT BRITS BE TOLD OFFICIALLY THAT AMCITS HERE AND ELSEWHERE IN GULF NO LONGER THEIR RESPONSIBILITY UNDER E&E PLANNING. SUGGEST THAT THIS BEST BE DONE IN WASHINGTON OR LONDON.

6. ADVISE. PAGANELLI

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NNN

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